

Bill of Sale.
Press

Jas. Lucas & Son's Steam

Know all Men by these Presents, That *I, James W. Cunningham* of *Anarundel County*, and State of Maryland, for an in consideration of the sum of *Seventy five Dollars* lawful money of the United States, to *Me* in hand paid by *Mary Elizabeth Price* at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged: HAVE granted, bargained and sold and by these presents DO grant, bargain and sell unto the said *Mary Elizabeth Price* her Executors, Administrators and Assigns,

one Colered Woman, or Negro

Adaline Hensone, aged about forty years.

James W. Cunningham Warrents the woman *Adaline Hanson*, to be sound & a slave for life

TO HAVE and TO HOLD

the said described *Adaline Henson* to the said *Mary Elizabeth Price* her Executors, Administrators and Assigns for ever:

AND *I* the said *James W. Cunningham* for My Heirs, Executors and Adminstrators, the said *Mary Elizabeth Price* unto the said *Mary Elizabeth Price* her Executors, Adminstrators and Assigns, against *Me* the said *James W Cunningham* Executors and Administrators, and against all and every other person or persons whomsoever, shall and will warrant and for ever defend by these presents.

In Witness whereof, *I* have hereunto set *My* hand and seal this *Thirteenth* day of *Decr.* eighteen hundred and *sixty one*

Signed, sealed and deliverd in the presence of}

Tests. Geo. McBain

James W Cunningham {SEAL}

[p2]

State of Maryland, City of Baltimore, Sct.

Be it Remembered, That on this *Thirteenth* day of *December* 1861 before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace for said City, appeared *James W. Cunningham* and acknowledged the foregoing Instrument of Writing to be his act and deed, according to the true intent and meaning thereof. And now at the same time before me personally appeared also *Mary Elizabeth Price* the within named bargainee and made oath in due form of law that the consideration set forth in the forgoing bill of sale, is true and bona fide, as therein set forth.

In testimony Whereof, *I have hereunto subscribed my name, on the day and year aforesaid.*

Geo. McBain, J.P.

[Perpendicular, in center of page]

Bill of sale

from

James W. Cunningham

to

Mary E. Price

of

A negro woman

slave for life

Ida Greenwell's Letter

[Ac. 5724]

June 21 – 1937

I am the daughter of George R. Price and Mary Elizabeth Price, the last member of the family alive. I wish to present to the Library of Congress the bill of sale of a colored slave. It may be of some value in years to come. My father was not a slave owner. I have heard the story told by him and my mother. In the days of slavery if you wanted help in your kitchen you hired it from a slave owner. This colored woman had been in my fathers home, I mean employed by him, for several years. One evening the man that owned her called on my father to say, he was going to send all of his slaves to Georgia for sale as he wanted to get what he could out of them before they would be freed. He asked my father if he wished to buy this colored [p2] woman or should he send her with the rest to Georgia for sale. I have heard my father and mother say, they called her in the room and asked her what she wanted them to do. She asked my father to buy her, which he did and gave her to my mother. At that time my people lived in Balto. where part of their family were born. After the war was over they moved to Washington where my mother had the rest of her family I being one of them. My father told me he explained to "Lina" as we called her, that she would soon be free to do as she wished. She never left our home, she was a part of the family the same as his children were. She lived to be 98 years old and saw most of them buried (the family). We all loved her dearly, she would have given her life to save ours. She had the greatest respect for my father and before he passed away, he left orders she was to be buried in the family [p3] lot where my mother, father, and the rest of the family are buried, Green Mount Cemetery Balto. My mother died when we were all young, she watched over us and carried out our mothers wishes as far as possible. She was a lady in her actions, and was treated with the greatest respect by every one who entered our house. She did not associate with colored people unless it was the help in our house. My sister and I took her remains to Balto. for burial at Green Mount Cemetery Balto. every member of the family alive were present. We had a white minister and a white undertaker. I cannot praise her too highly. We all loved her and she was faithful unto death signed

daughter of George R and Mary E. Price }

Ida G. Greenwell

412 – B St NE. Wash. DC